

Applicant: Osamu Sugimoto, et al.  
U.S.S.N. UNASSIGNED  
Preliminary Amendment Filed With Application  
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**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests that the subject application be preliminarily amended as provided in the foregoing amendment prior to calculation of the filing fees. Applicant also respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the foregoing amended claims in the first Office Action on the merits.

Claims 1-7 and 14-16 are canceled in the instant amendment as these correspond to the elected claims in the parent application. New claim 17 finds support on page 47, lines 1-14 of the specification.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in a condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

Applicant believes that additional fees are not required for consideration of the within Preliminary Amendment. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP

Date: December 5, 2003  
Customer No.: 21874

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